

THE THEORY AND PRACTICE OF SOLUTION FOR
FUZZY RELATIVE EQUATIONS IN MAX-PRODUCT

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This paper studies the existence in solution of Fuzzy relative equations in Max-product and the theorem for maximum solution and minimum solution; then it gives a short-circuit for solution. And at the same time, with this relative equations, it solves the influence factor for economical benefits in enterprises of commerce, the result of which tallies with practice basically.

Keywords: Max-product Fuzzy relative equations (M-PFRE), Finite field, Influence factor, Maximum solution, Minimum solution, Matrix of candidate solution.

1. Introduction

Let $U = \{x_1, x_2, \dots, x_p\}$, $V = \{y_1, y_2, \dots, y_q\}$ ($p \geq m$, $q \geq n$) be finite field, and Fuzzy relation $\underline{A} \in F(U \times V)$, $\underline{X} \in F(U)$, $\underline{B} \in F(V)$, then consider the generalized Fuzzy relative equations:

$$\underline{A} \circ \underline{X} = \underline{B} \quad (1.1)$$

where "o" represents Max-product operation, that is operator (V, \cdot) .

Let $\underline{B} = (b_1, b_2, \dots, b_n)^T$ and

$$\underline{A} = \begin{pmatrix} \underline{A}_1(x_1^{(1)}) & \underline{A}_2(x_2^{(1)}) & \dots & \underline{A}_m(x_m^{(1)}) \\ \vdots & \vdots & \ddots & \vdots \\ \underline{A}_1(x_1^{(n)}) & \underline{A}_2(x_2^{(n)}) & \dots & \underline{A}_m(x_m^{(n)}) \end{pmatrix} \quad (1.2)$$

how to solve $\underline{X} = (x_1, x_2, \dots, x_m)^T$? "T" represents transpose.

First of all, this paper studies the solution of (1.1) theoretically, then, by the application of practical examples, attains the degree factor influencing economical benefits in enterprises of commerce, which finds the practical background for the application of equations (1.1).

II. The Solubility of the M-PFRE and the Theorem for the Maximum Solution

In order to discuss conveniently, let matrix element in (1.2) be:

$$A_j(x_j^{(i)}) = a_{ij}. \quad (i=1, 2, \dots, n; j=1, 2, \dots, m)$$

Then, next step, we only discuss Fuzzy relative equations like this:

$$\begin{pmatrix} a_{11} & a_{12} & \dots & a_{1m} \\ \vdots & \vdots & \ddots & \vdots \\ a_{n1} & a_{n2} & \dots & a_{nm} \end{pmatrix} \circ \begin{pmatrix} x_1 \\ \vdots \\ x_m \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} b_1 \\ \vdots \\ b_n \end{pmatrix} \quad (2.1)$$

where the compound operation "o" in matrix be Max-product composition, i.e. $\bigvee_{1 \leq j \leq m} (a_{ij} \cdot x_j) = b_i \quad (i=1, 2, \dots, n)$

$$\text{Definition 2.1} \quad a_{ij} \alpha^{-1} b_i \triangleq \begin{cases} \frac{b_i}{a_{ij}} & a_{ij} > b_i \\ 1 & a_{ij} \leq b_i \end{cases} \quad \forall a_{ij}, b_i \in [0, 1] \quad (2.2)$$

where α^{-1} is an operator defined at $[0, 1]$. And let

$$K_j \triangleq \bigwedge_{i=1}^n a_{ij} \alpha^{-1} b_i \quad (j=1, 2, \dots, m) \quad (2.3)$$

then $\underline{x} = (K_1, K_2, \dots, K_m) \in \underline{X}$ is the maximum element in \underline{X} .

$$\text{Proposition 2.1} \quad b \geq c \Rightarrow a \alpha^{-1} b \geq a \alpha^{-1} c$$

$$\text{Proof.} \quad a > b \Rightarrow a > c, \text{ From (2.2), } a \alpha^{-1} b = \frac{b}{a} \geq \frac{c}{a} = a \alpha^{-1} c.$$

$$a \leq b \Rightarrow a \alpha^{-1} b = 1, \text{ but } a \alpha^{-1} c \leq 1, \text{ hence } a \alpha^{-1} b \geq a \alpha^{-1} c.$$

$$\text{Inference. 2.1. } a \alpha^{-1} (b \vee c) \geq a \alpha^{-1} c.$$

$$\text{Proposition 2.2. } a \cdot (a \alpha^{-1} b) = a \wedge b; \quad a \alpha^{-1} (a \cdot b) \geq b.$$

$$\text{proof: } 1^\circ \quad a > b \Rightarrow a \alpha^{-1} b = \frac{b}{a} \Rightarrow a \cdot (a \alpha^{-1} b) = b.$$

$$a \leq b \Rightarrow a \alpha^{-1} b = 1 \Rightarrow a \cdot (a \alpha^{-1} b) = a \cdot 1 = a.$$

$$\text{So} \quad a \cdot (a \alpha^{-1} b) = a \wedge b.$$

$$2^\circ \text{ when } a > ab \Rightarrow a \alpha^{-1} (a \cdot b) = b; \quad a \leq ab \Rightarrow a \alpha^{-1} (a \cdot b) = 1$$

$$\text{So} \quad a \alpha^{-1} (a \cdot b) \geq b$$

Theorem 2.1 There exists solution $\underline{x} = (x_1, x_2, \dots, x_m)^T$ in Fuzzy relative equations (2.1) if and only if

$a_{ij}x_j \leq b_i$ ($i \leq n, j \leq m$), and for each j there exists j_i such that $a_{ij_i} = b_i$.

Proof: Sufficiency shows. Now let's prove the necessity.

If $x = (x_1, x_2, \dots, x_m)^T$ is the solution for (2.1), then

$$a_{ij} \cdot x_j \leq b_i \quad (i \leq n, j \leq m) \quad (2.4)$$

otherwise, if there exists i, j , such that $a_{ij}x_j > b_i$, then

$$(a_{i1} \cdot x_1) \vee \dots \vee (a_{ij} \cdot x_j) \vee \dots \vee (a_{im} \cdot x_m) > b_i$$

Contradictory! So (2.4) holds.

At the same time, if there exists solution in (2.4), and $a_{ij}x_j \leq b_i$ ($i \leq n, j \leq m$), there must exist j_i for each $i \leq n$ so that $a_{ij_i}x_{j_i} = b_i$ ($i \leq n$) otherwise.

1° We have proved it impossible that if for each i there exists j_i such that $a_{ij_i}x_{j_i} > b_i$.

2° If for each j there exists i such that $a_{ij}x_j < b_i$, then

$$(a_{i1}x_1) \vee (a_{i2}x_2) \vee \dots \vee (a_{im}x_m) < b_i$$

which is in contradictory with the solution in (2.1).

In practical application, (2.1) probably has no solution, but small alteration may be always given to A for ϵ and B for δ , so that

$$\underline{A}^\epsilon \cdot \underline{x} = \underline{B} \quad \text{or} \quad \underline{A} \cdot \underline{x} = \underline{B}^\delta$$

has an steady solution.

So the following is always assumed to have solution in (2.1). If \underline{B} in (2.1) is arranged in standardization, then

$$b'_1 \geq b'_2 \geq \dots \geq b'_n \quad (\text{or } b'_1 \leq b'_2 \leq \dots \leq b'_n)$$

For shortly, let b_i still stand for b'_i and (a_{ij}) for (a'_{ij}) correspondingly.

Theorem 2.2. If there exists solution $R \neq \emptyset$ in (2.1), then \underline{k} is the maximum solution of it.

Proof: Because $R \neq \emptyset$, then $\{i, a_{ij} > b_i\} \neq \emptyset$ ($i \leq n, j \leq m$). Hence when $\underline{A} \cdot \underline{k} = (b'_i; i \leq n)$, then

$$b'_i = \bigvee_{j=1}^m [a_{ij} \cdot (\bigwedge_{i=1}^n (a_{ij} a^{-1} b_i))] = \bigvee_{j=1}^m [a_{ij} \cdot (a_{ij} a^{-1} b_i)]$$

$$\bigvee_{j=1}^m (a_{ij} \cdot \frac{b_i}{a_{ij}}) = b_i. \quad (i \leq n).$$

Again $\underline{x}, \underline{k} \in R$, then:

$$\begin{aligned} k_{j_0} &= \bigwedge_{i=1}^n (a_{ij_0} \alpha^{-1} b_i) = \bigwedge_{i=1}^n (a_{ii_0} \alpha^{-1} b_i) \\ &= \bigwedge_{i=1}^n [a_{ij_0} \alpha^{-1} (\bigvee_{i=1}^n a_{ij_0} \cdot x_{j_0})] \geq \bigwedge_{i=1}^n a_{ij_0} \alpha^{-1} (a_{ij_0} \cdot x_{j_0}) \\ &= a_{i_0 j_0} \alpha^{-1} (a_{i_0 j_0} \cdot x_{j_0}) \geq x_{j_0} \end{aligned}$$

Hence $\underline{x} \subset \underline{k}$.

Inference 2.2. If we have solution in $\underline{x} \circ B = \underline{B}$, then \underline{k}^T is the maximum solution of it.

proof: $\underline{x} \circ B = \underline{B} \iff R^T \circ \underline{x}^T = \underline{B}^T \Rightarrow \underline{x}^T \subset [(R^T)^T \alpha^{-1} \underline{B}^T] = \underline{k}$, and $R^T \circ \underline{k} = \underline{B}^T \iff \underline{x} \subset \underline{k}^T$ and $\underline{k}^T \circ R = \underline{B}$.

where α^{-1} represents the compound operation of α^{-1} .

So, the solution introduced in this paper is suitable for the inverse problem of multifaction evaluation.

III. The Research for Minimum Solution and Decision for Solvability

Definition 3.1. Stipulate

$$a_{ij}^* = a_{ij} \beta^{-1} b_i \triangleq \begin{cases} k_j, & a_{ij} k_j = b_i \\ 0, & \text{others} \end{cases} \quad (3.1)$$

If k_j is defined by Definition 2.1, it's impossible to make $a_{ij} k_j > b_i$. Then we can get a definition equal to Definition 3.1.

Definition 3.2. Stipulate

$$a_{ij}^* = a_{ij} \beta^{-1} b_i \triangleq \begin{cases} k_j, & a_{ij} k_j = b_i \\ 0, & a_{ij} k_j < b_i \end{cases} \quad (3.2)$$

Definition 3.3. Matrix $\underline{A}^* = (a_{ij}^*)$, as nonzero element is the element of solution \underline{k} , then we call \underline{A}^* matrix of candidate solution in (2.1) and the set of each row element in \underline{A}^* is called row element set, which writes

as follows: $\underline{A}_i^* = (\frac{a_{i1}^*}{x_1} + \frac{a_{i2}^*}{x_2} + \dots + \frac{a_{im}^*}{x_m}) (i \leq n)$

Definition 3.4. Stipulate operator:

$$P \triangleq (\prod \frac{r_i}{x_i}) (\sum \frac{r_j}{x_j}) = \begin{cases} \prod \frac{r_i}{x_i} & \text{if } \exists i=j \\ \text{all multiplication of sum, otherwise} \end{cases}$$

Proposition 3.1. $\bigcap_{i \leq n} \underline{A}_i^* \xleftrightarrow{P} \underline{R}^*$

Where $R^* = \sum_{i=1}^n R_i^* = \sum_i (\prod \frac{r_i}{x_i})$, and r_i is one of K_j .

Proof: From Definition 3.4 and by law of set operation, it's easy to obtain:
 $\bigcap_{i=1}^n A_i^* \Leftrightarrow \sum_i (\prod \frac{r_i}{x_i})$.

As $a_{ij}^* = 0$ is omitted in the course of P operation and also nonzero-repeated removable element a_{ij} has to be rejected in the application of absorptive law and so on, hence reserve r_i is one of K_j .

Theorem 3.1 Let $R \neq \emptyset$. $R_i^* \in R$ is minimum solution of (2.1) when $a_{ij} K_j = b_i$.

Proof: As $R \neq \emptyset$, then $\{j; a_{ij} K_j = b_i\} \neq \emptyset, (j \in m)$. Hence when $A \circ R_i^* = (b_i; j \leq m)$, we know the following from Definition 3.4:
 $b_i = \bigvee_{j=1}^m (a_{ij} \cdot r_j) \xrightarrow{P} \bigvee_{j=1}^m (a_{ij} \cdot K_j) = b_i (i \leq n)$.

So R_i^* is the solution of (2.1), that is a minimum solution. Otherwise if we have another $R_i^* \subset R$, there exists (i_0, j_0) such that $r_{j_0}' < r_{j_0}$, then
 $\bigvee_{j=1}^m (a_{ij} r_j') = a_{i_0 j_0} \cdot r_{j_0}' < a_{i_0 j_0} r_{j_0}$
 $= \bigvee_{j=1}^m (a_{ij} \cdot r_j) = b_i (i \leq n)$

Contradictory! Hence R_i^* is the minimum solution for (2.1).

Theorem 3.2. $R \neq \emptyset \Leftrightarrow$ Each row of A^* has at least a nonzero element.

Proof: " \Rightarrow " $R \neq \emptyset \xrightarrow{\text{from Theorem 2.1}} a_{ij} x_j \leq b_i (i \leq n, j \leq m)$. And for each i there exists j_i such that $a_{ij_i} \cdot x_{j_i} = b_i$. Then, $K_{j_i} \in R$, so that $a_{ij_i} \cdot K_{j_i} = b_i (i \leq n)$. From Definition 3.2, we know there exists at least a nonzero element in each row of A^* .

" \Leftarrow " If there exists at least a nonzero element in each row of A^* , we might as well let $a_{ij_0}^* = K_{j_0} \neq 0, (i \leq n)$ while other $a_{ij}^* = 0$. From Definition 3.2, for each $i, a_{ij_0} K_{j_0} = b_i, a_{ij} K_j < b_i (j \neq j_0)$. Obviously, it satisfies the sufficient condition in Theorem 2.1. Hence there exists solution in (2.1).

If $R_i^* (i \leq n)$ is used, K represents minimum solution and maximum solution, then common solution of (2.1) is:

$$R = (\cup R_i^*) \cup K = \underline{x} \cup \underline{k}$$

Obviously K is unique, but K_i^* may not.

IV Application Example

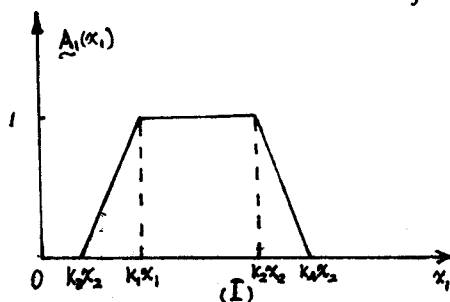
practically, section 2 and 3 have given the solution method for (2.1), the calculation of which is to be expanded by example.

The next table shows the commodity bought-sold by five stores in the suburb of the city:

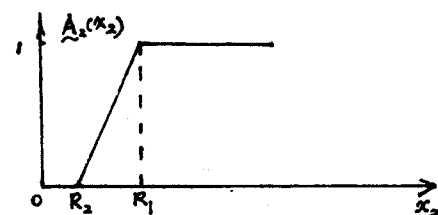
	X_1	X_2	X_3	X_4	X_5	$\frac{X_3}{X_2}$	$\frac{X_4}{X_2}$	R_1
Y_1	1285	550	25	20	65	0.045	0.036	490
Y_2	600	250	14	-0.8	91	0.056	-0.0032	262
Y_3	680	408	17	10	82	0.042	0.025	401
Y_4	472	438.6	21.5	-3.1	106	0.049	-0.0071	480
Y_5	660	367.5	19.8	0.8	72	0.054	0.002	378

By statistics, the evaluation item is x_1 for purchase, x_2 for sale, x_3 for expence, x_4 for benefits (ten thousand a unit), x_5 for fund turnover (one day a unit), and the membership function attained in economical benefits is as follows:

$$(I) \underline{A}_1(x_1) = \begin{cases} 0 & 0 \leq x_1 < k_3 x_2 \\ \frac{x_1 - k_3 x_2}{(k_1 - k_3) x_2} & k_3 x_2 \leq x_1 \leq k_1 x_2 \\ 1 & k_1 x_2 < x_1 < k_2 x_2 \\ \frac{x_1 - k_2 x_2}{(k_2 - k_4) x_2} & k_2 x_2 \leq x_1 \leq k_4 x_2 \\ 0 & k_4 x_2 < x_1 \end{cases}$$



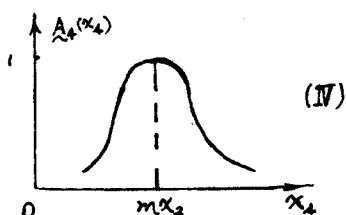
$$(II) \underline{A}_2(x_2) = \begin{cases} 1 & R_1 < x_2 \\ \frac{x_2 - R_1}{R_1 - R_2} & R_2 \leq x_2 \leq R_1 \\ 0 & x_2 < R_2 \end{cases}$$



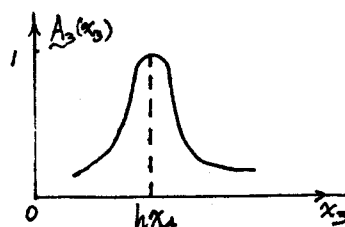
$$(III) \underline{A}_3(x_3) = \frac{1}{1 + 1000 \left(\frac{x_3}{x_2} - \frac{hx_4}{x_2} \right)^2}, \quad x_3 \in \mathbb{R}^+$$

(I)

$$(IV) \underline{A}_4(x_4) = e^{-\left(\frac{x_4}{x_2} \% - m \right)^2}, \quad x_4 \in \mathbb{R}$$

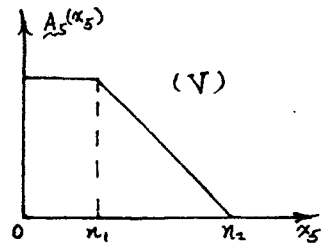


(IV)



(II)

$$(V) \tilde{A}_5(x_5) = \begin{cases} 1 & 0 \leq x_5 < n_1 \\ \frac{x_5 - n_1}{n_1 - n_2} & n_1 \leq x_5 \leq n_2, x_5 \in [0, 365] \\ 0 & n_2 < x_5 \leq 365 \end{cases}$$



According to statistics material, it is proper to select $K_1=1.8, K_2=2.2, K_3=1.5, K_4=2.5, h=1, m=3.2, n_1=62, n_2=88, R_2=90\% \cdot R_1$ (R_i represents the former year's sales volume). Now it is known that the evaluation by experts for five stores in economical benefits is as follows:

$$\underline{B} = (x_1, x_2, x_3, x_4, x_5)^T = (0.782, 0.378, 0.7, 0.2, 0.49)^T$$

Now try to determine influencing degree of each single target to the whole economical benefits.

Let influencing factor be $\underline{X} = (x_1, x_2, x_3, x_4, x_5)^T$, and replace the data in the table and parameter above separately in (I)~(V), then calculate \underline{A} ,

Hence Fuzzy relative equations corresponding (1.1) is as follows:

$$\begin{pmatrix} 0.6 & 1 & 0.93 & 0.85 & 0.12 \\ 0.3 & 0.54 & 0.22 & 4 \times 10^{-6} & 0 \\ 0.56 & 1 & 0.78 & 0.61 & 0.77 \\ 0 & 0.14 & 0.24 & 2.3 \times 10^{-7} & 0 \\ 0.99 & 0.7 & 0.27 & 1.2 \times 10^{-4} & 0.38 \end{pmatrix} \cdot \begin{pmatrix} x_1 \\ x_2 \\ x_3 \\ x_4 \\ x_5 \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} 0.782 \\ 0.378 \\ 0.7 \\ 0.2 \\ 0.49 \end{pmatrix}$$

1° Make augmented matrix $(\underline{A} | \underline{B})$, and arrange it in standardization.

$$\left(\begin{array}{ccccc|c} 0.6 & 1 & 0.93 & 0.85 & 0.12 & 0.782 \\ 0.56 & 1 & 0.78 & 0.61 & 0.77 & 0.7 \\ 0.99 & 0.7 & 0.27 & 1.2 \times 10^{-4} & 0.38 & 0.49 \\ 0.3 & 0.54 & 0.22 & 4 \times 10^{-6} & 0 & 0.378 \\ 0 & 0.14 & 0.24 & 2.3 \times 10^{-7} & 0 & 0.2 \end{array} \right)$$

2° From (2.2) and (2.3), we obtain:

$$\left(\begin{array}{ccccc|c} 0.49 & 0.7 & 0.83 & 0.92 & 0.91 & K_j \\ \hline 1 & 0.782 & 0.84 & 0.92 & 1 & 0.782 \\ | & 0.7 & 0.9 & | & 0.91 & 0.7 \\ 0.49 & 0.7 & | & | & | & 0.49 \\ | & 0.7 & | & | & | & 0.378 \\ | & | & 0.83 & | & | & 0.2 \end{array} \right)$$

3° From (3.2), \underline{A}^* is obtained as follows:

$$\underline{A}^* = \begin{pmatrix} x_1 & x_2 & x_3 & x_4 & x_5 \\ \hline 0 & 0 & 0 & 0.92 & 0 \\ 0 & 0.7 & 0 & 0 & 0.91 \\ 0.49 & 0.7 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0.7 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0.83 & 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix}$$

From the decision of Theorem 3.4, there exists solution in the equations.

$$\begin{aligned} & 4^{\circ} \text{ Calculate: } \underline{A}_1^* \cap \underline{A}_2^* \cap \underline{A}_3^* \cap \underline{A}_4^* \cap \underline{A}_5^* \\ &= \frac{0.92}{x_4} \cdot \left(\frac{0.7}{x_2} + \frac{0.91}{x_5} \right) \cdot \left(\frac{0.49}{x_1} + \frac{0.7}{x_2} \right) \cdot \frac{0.7}{x_2} \cdot \frac{0.83}{x_3} \rightarrow \frac{0.92}{x_4} \cdot \left(\frac{0.7}{x_2} + \frac{0.91}{x_5} \right) \cdot \frac{0.7}{x_2} \cdot \frac{0.83}{x_3} \\ &= \frac{0.92}{x_4} \cdot \frac{0.7}{x_2} \cdot \frac{0.83}{x_3} \end{aligned}$$

So there exists minimum solution in relative equations, that is minimal solution.

$$R_1^* = (0, 0.7, 0.83, 0.92, 0)^T, \text{ where its maximum solution is:}$$

$$K = (0.49, 0.7, 0.83, 0.92, 0.91)^T, \text{ then}$$

$$R = ([0, 0.49], 0.7, 0.83, 0.92, [0, 0.91])^T \quad (4.1)$$

Note: If we come across $r_i = r_j$ when in the application of absorptive law, we have

$$\frac{r_i}{x_1} + \frac{r_j}{x_2} \cdot \frac{r_i}{x_1} = \frac{r_i}{x_1}$$

From (4.1), the profit influences the economical benefits most largely in the stores and the relative degree is highest, and flexible room is very small. Sale and expense correlates with economical benefits closely. Though large sale and low expense are needed, yet attention must be paid to the suitable level of purchase and sale and to the appropriate rate of expense and profit. Purchase and fund turnover can be separately changed between $[0, 0.49]$ and $[0, 0.91]$ freely. In fact, more sale, more profit, if enlarge purchase, moving fund will be occupied and fund turnover will slow, which will affect sale. If expense is too low, regular purchase and sale will be affected, then sale decreases and profit will cut down. Besides, it is not noticeable that purchase and fund turnover affect the store in economical benefits, which proves calculation theoretically tallies with practical regularity.

If we take the unique influence factor, a middle point of interval number in (4.1) is easily taken. Then we obtain $R = (0.25, 0.7, 0.83, 0.92, 0.45)^T$.

The M-PFRE is extensively applied in Fuzzy Logic, Operations Research, and also in expert system and economical administration and has deeply practical background and it is worth deeply searching in theory and practice.

Reference

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